Case 2837/1

Poecilonota Eschscholtz, 1829, *Palmar* Schaefer, 1949 and *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation by the designation of *Buprestis variolosa* Paykull, [1799] as the type species of *Poecilonota* and *B. rutilans* Fabricius, [1777] as the type species of *Scintillatrix*

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the current understanding and usage of the names *Poecilonota* Eschscholtz, 1829, *Palmar* Schaefer, 1949 and *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956 (family BUPRESTIDAE Leach, 1815, jewel beetles) by designating *Buprestis variolosa* Paykull, [1799] as the type species of *Poecilonota* and *B. rutilans* Fabricius, [1777] as the type species of *Scintillatrix*. At present *B. rutilans* is the valid type species of *Poecilonota* and *B. festiva* Linnaeus, 1767 is the type of both *Palmar* and *Scintillatrix*. Both *Poecilonota* and *Scintillatrix* have worldwide distribution, whilst *Palmar* is Palaearctic in distribution. All three genera include species which are pests of plants; *Scintillatrix rutilans* in particular causes serious damage to old trees of the lime *Tilia cordata*.

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1. In 1829 Eschscholtz (p. 9) established the genus *Poecilonota*. He briefly described the taxon and included two species, *Buprestis conspersa* Gyllenhall, 1808 (p. 441, who cited *B. variolosa* Paykull, [1799], p. 219 as a synonym) and *B. rutilans* Fabricius, [1777] (p. 235). Westwood ([1838], p. 24) gave *rutilans* as 'the typical species' of the genus. The type species designations in Westwood's *Synopsis of the genera of British insects* were accepted as valid in Opinion 71 (January 1922) but, as explained below, *Poecilonota* has not been used in the sense of having *B. rutilans* as the type. The dates of publication of Westwood's work were set out in Direction 63 (June 1957).

2. In 1833 Dejean (p. 78) introduced the name *Lampra* for a genus and included four species, *Buprestis conspersa* (with *B. variolosa* Paykull as a synonym), *B. rutilans*, *B. festiva* 'Fabr.' (i.e. Fabricius, 1775, p. 223, who cited Linnaeus, 1767, p. 663) and *decipiens* Dejean. The generic name was not accompanied by a diagnosis, description or illustration but since three of the included nominal species can be identified by citations of their authors it meets the requirements of availability under Article 12b(5) of the Code. Boisduval & Lacordaire (1835, p. 595) gave the first description of the genus *Lampra* and included in it *conspersa* and *rutilans*. As noted in para. 6 below *Lampra* was in fact an invalid name.

3. Spinola (1837, pp. 108–109) established two subdivisions within *Lampra*, the first for *conspersa* (= *variolosa*) and the second for *rutilans* and *festiva*. Marseul (1865, pp. 151–164) maintained Spinola's two divisions but, in contrast to Westwood's type designation (see para. 1), adopted *Lampra* for both *rutilans* and *festiva* and

Poecilonota for *variolosa*. Since Marseul's (1865) work *Poecilonota* has been used either to include both the *variolosa* group and *Lampra* (the *rutilans* group) or to include only the *variolosa* group of species. It has not been used for the *rutilans* group alone, with the exception of Leraut (1983; see para. 7). Casey (1909, p. 52), Bílý (1982, p. 40) and Cobos (1986, p. 116) gave, albeit incorrectly, *variolosa* as the type species of *Poecilonota*. The name has appeared (applied to the *variolosa* group) in the following recent publications: Volkovitsh (1977, p. 24), Harde (1979, p. 214), Bílý (1989, p. 37) and Weidlich (1989, p. 56). A list of a further 13 references published in the last 50 years is held by the Commission Secretariat.

4. Gistl (1848, p. ix) believed *Lampra* 'Lacordaire' (i.e. Dejean, 1833) to be a junior homonym of the fish name *Lampris* Retzius, 1799 and replaced the buprestid name with the new name *Dendrochariessa*. However, the 1985 Code (and previous editions) states (Article 56b) that even if genus-group names differ by only one letter they are not to be regarded as homonyms. The name *Dendrochariessa* is a senior objective synonym of *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956 (see para. 6 below) but, with the single exception of Leraut (1983) (para. 7), it has not been used. For the sake of stability in the nomenclature I propose that it be suppressed. Neave (1939, p. 36) incorrectly listed *Dendrochariessa* Gistl as a replacement for the coleopteran name *Dendrocharis* Guérin-Méněville, 1843.

5. Casey (1909, p. 52) designated *Buprestis festiva* Linnaeus, 1767 as the type species of *Lampra* Dejean, although this appears not to have been followed. In 1949 Schaefer (p. 167) established *Palmar* as a subgenus of *Lampra* with *festiva* as the type species; he did not mention Casey's work. The name *Palmar* was accompanied by a description (pp. 175–178) and an illustration of a male specimen of *festiva* (pl. 10, fig. 186). Hellrigl (1972, p. 652) discussed the distinguishing features which separated *Palmar* from *Lampra* and elevated *Palmar* to generic rank. The latter has been used for *festiva* and allied species either as a genus or as a subgenus (see, for example, Harde, 1979, p. 419; Bellamy, 1985, p. 419; Cobos, 1986, p. 121. The Commission Secretariat holds a list of a further nine references published within the last 30 years).

6. Since Schaefer's (1949) work *Lampra* Dejean has been used solely for *rutilans* and related species. Richter (1952, p. 66) cited *rutilans* as the type species, although this is invalid because of Casey's designation of *festiva* (see para. 5 above). Until Obenberger (1956) workers appear to have overlooked that *Lampra* Dejean, 1833 is a junior homonym of *Lampra* Hübner, 1821 in Lepidoptera (type species *Phalaena fimbriata* von Schreber, 1759; see Nye, 1975, p. 267). Obenberger (1956, p. 41) replaced Dejean's preoccupied name (in its *rutilans* sense) by the new name *Scintillatrix*. The latter has been used by recent authors including Bílý (1982, p. 71, who noted *rutilans* as the type species; 1989, p. 38), Cobos (1986, p. 118) and Tassi (1966, pp. 213–216). A list of a further eight references published within the last 30 years is held by the Commission Secretariat. Since *Scintillatrix* was a replacement name for *Lampra* Dejean its type species is *B. festiva* because of Casey's (1909) designation for *Lampra* (see para. 5), contrary to Obenberger's intention when establishing it and to the usage since.

7. Leraut (1983) adopted the name *Poecilonota* for the genus presently called *Scintillatrix* (*rutilans* and allied species), thereby giving the name a meaning different from the practice of more than a century (see para. 3 above); he introduced the new name *Descarpentriesina* in place of *Poecilonota* as long understood (the *variolosa*

species group). Leraut also adopted the unused name *Dendrochariessa* Gistl, 1848 in place of *Palmar* (the *festiva* species group), recording *Lampra* and *Scintillatrix* as synonyms, although they have not been used in this sense. With the exception of MacRae (1991, pp. 107–109) the name *Descarpentriesina* has not been used. Although Leraut's system of nomenclature is in formal accord with the Code its adoption would result in great and unnecessary confusion among these buprestid genera.

8. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers:
  (a) to set aside all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Poecilonota* Eschscholtz, 1829 and to designate *Buprestis variolosa* Paykull, [1799] as the type species;
  (b) to set aside all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956 and to designate *Buprestis rutilans* Fabricius, [1777] as the type species;
  (c) to suppress the generic name *Dendrochariessa* Gistl, 1848 for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) *Poecilonota* Eschscholtz, 1829 (gender: feminine), type species by designation in (1)(a) above *Buprestis variolosa* Paykull, [1799];
  (b) *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956 (gender: feminine), type species by designation in (1)(b) above *Buprestis rutilans* Fabricius, [1777];
  (c) *Palmar* Schaefer, 1949 (gender: feminine), type species by original designation *Buprestis festiva* Linnaeus, 1767;
(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) *variolosa* Paykull, [1799], as published in the binomen *Buprestis variolosa* (specific name of the type species of *Poecilonota* Eschscholtz, 1829);
  (b) *rutilans* Fabricius, [1777], as published in the binomen *Buprestis rutilans* (specific name of the type species of *Scintillatrix* Obenberger, 1956);
  (c) *festiva* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the binomen *Buprestis festiva* (type species of *Palmar* Schaefer, 1949);
(4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
  (a) *Dendrochariessa* Gistl, 1848, as suppressed in (1)(c) above;
  (b) *Descarpentriesina* Leraut, 1983 (a junior objective synonym of *Poecilonota* Eschscholtz, 1829);
  (c) *Lampra* Dejean, 1833 (a junior homonym of *Lampra* Hübner, 1821).

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